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FRANK L. HOOQS.....MANAGER

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The American Humbert

The cable dispatches indicate that the case of Mrs. Chadwick is to become, if it has not already become, a cause celebre. It has already brought one or two banks to ruin, and involved a number of men prominent financially, including Andrew Carnegie, who has a reputation outside of dollar making.

There is a striking resemblance in many respects between this case and the celebrated Humbert case which involved banks, governments and almost dynasties, in France. The Humbert case was looked on at the time of its denouement as the most astounding case in the history of criminal frauds. By means of a collusive suit over the will of a mythical American, a suit which by one means and another was kept in the courts of France for years, Madame Humbert was able to borrow money on the security of the bonds which constituted the estate, which was in litigation, and which, pending the settlement of the litigation were kept in a safe in the possession of the Humberts under the seal of the court. On this ingeniously built up scheme, millions of francs were borrowed, some of the lenders being the most astute financiers of France. When the seal of the court was finally broken, and the safe opened, the same state of affairs was found to exist that did when Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard. The safe was empty. The Humberts fled, were discovered and arrested in Spain, taken back to France and after a trial filled with sensations, were convicted and are now serving time.

Mrs. Chadwick's case is parallel in the vast extent of her borrowings, more than a million dollars having been loaned to her, in the mythical character of the security she offered, and in the hints of wealthy connections which seem to have been effectively used by her to lure money from the banks and money lenders. She has made the claim that she is a daughter of Andrew Carnegie, which he has promptly denied. She has claimed that she held his notes for large amounts given to enable her to secure money on them. Now it seems probable that his signature to the notes are forgeries.

In all, there seems a remarkable combination of effrontery and assurance on the part of Mrs. Chadwick, together with an incredible amount of credulity, and susceptibility to the blandishment of great names and a designing woman, on the part of the lenders. The case has not developed fully enough yet to know whether the lenders are to be derided as fools or pitied as dupes. Whatever reason they may give for lending, probably Mrs. Chadwick's reason for borrowing was that she needed the money.

Louisiana And Hawaii

The following from the Louisiana Planter shows how keenly everything relating to sugar or sugar countries is watched by the periodicals which stand for the cane sugar interests of the states. It shows also, what is not so commendable, a tendency to jealousy and suspicion, and to impute sinister motives. There ought to be no envious rivalry between Louisiana and Hawaii. There is no envy on the part of Hawaii:

"The Editor of the Hawaii Daily Star, Mr. Charles L. Rhodes, delivered an address before the Press Club in Chicago a few days ago, in which he claimed that Hawaii could readily support a million American citizens and was really a land of promise in the middle of the Pacific, which ought to be cherished by the American Union as one of its best factors. He was disposed to reproach the general government for its reluctant development of the islands, in so far as harbor expenditure and other general expenses were concerned and to argue that the Hawaiian territory was unduly taxed with no compensating expenditure in their locality.

"The million inhabitants that he dreams of as a suitable population for the islands would seem in no wise difficult of realization were it not for the intrusion of the white men into the islands. When the missionaries went there nearly a century ago, the population of the Hawaiian Islands was estimated at 500,000 to 600,000 people. The introduction of the white men's civilization, with all of its accompanying evils, practically destroyed the Hawaiian people, until now fewer than 100,000 of them are left. It is not very likely that a great white republican form of state government will be established in Hawaii, as for a century or more to come the states of the American Union, and especially the states of the South, will offer greater inducements to white men desiring to settle the country than will distant Hawaii.

"In regard to the parsimony of the general government in its expenditures in the Hawaiian harbors as compared with its collections on the imports, our Hawaiian friends seem to forget that on their 400,000 short tons of sugars produced they have an advantage, even now, over Cuba amounting to some \$26 per short ton, or over \$10,000,000 on the present Hawaiian production of sugar. This was the prize that they sought to secure by coming into the American Union as one of its territories and it would hardly seem fair for them to complain of any ill treatment when we consider the recency of their entrance into this new relationship.

"Another significant point in this connection is the fact that these same white leaders in Hawaii, having succeeded in coming into the brotherhood of states and territories of the American Union, are not content with the American labor system and are even now planning to secure contract, or coolie, labor, claiming that the Hawaiian sugar industry suffers by the lack of labor. The same argument obtains in regard to the coal, iron and woolen industries of the United States and especially to the great cotton and sugar industries of the southern states and the beet sugar industry of the western states. Every one of these industries are to be continued along their prospective lines to positive success. The delivery of the Louisiana sugar crop is today very severely hampered by the insufficient labor supply, and 20,000 men could secure constant employment during the next sixty days in the cane fields of Louisiana, if they could be had. If the United States is to go over to coolie, or contract, labor, a move that we should sincerely deplore, let it be under a general law, and not under any special one, and let every industry that wants more laborers have the power to contract in China or Hindoostan for such coolie labor as it may want, if any part of the American Union is to have the benefit, or injury, of such legislation."

There certainly was nothing in Mr. Rhodes' address before the Press Club of Chicago to warrant the statement that "he was disposed to reproach the general government for its reluctant development of the islands." He did advocate a prompt and efficient carrying out of works already decided on, and which were the efficient reason for the annexation sentiment in the United States. But Louisiana, which has had so many millions of federal money poured into for the improvement of the Mississippi and other works, ought to be the last to make flings at other regions which are asking for federal public works.

It would seem that the Louisiana Planter regrets "the intrusion of white men into the islands," and to feel indignant that the tariff gives Hawaiian sugar an advantage of \$26 a ton over Cuban sugar, though Louisiana sugar has exactly the same advantage. The argument of the Louisiana Planter throughout seems to be the querulous one that somehow Hawaii hasn't the same right to ask Congress for what it wants that other states and territories have.

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the Japanese are continuing the same careful preparations that have been the wonder of the war departments of the world, and which have gained for them so many of their victories. Preparedness is one of their characteristics in military operations at least.

Mrs. Chadwick evidently didn't borrow all the loanable funds in the United States, seeing that there is some offered for Hawaiian bonds at a very satisfactory premium.

Governor Carter says the execution at Oahu Prison next Thursday will be "a quiet one," as he does not think too much notoriety given to such things is a good thing. The principal in the gallows event is probably inclined to the same view and is ready to go beyond the governor and avoid all notoriety by omitting the event altogether.

The Japanese ice cream and soda water vendors have decided not to attack the Sunday laws. Perhaps the Japs, like Lincoln, think one war at a time is enough.

The Reed Smoot investigation has been taken up again. But very few people think that after the way Utah, largely through Reed Smoot's efforts, went Republican at the last election, anything very serious will happen to Smoot.

Probably the largest black bear killed in Vermont in the past 20 years was the one shot by David Semor of Warren on Granby mountain last week. The carcass weighed 423 pounds. Mr. Semor refused an offer of \$5 for the skin, and there is talk of introducing a bill into the Legislature authorizing the purchase of the hide with a view of mounting it as a permanent exhibit at the state-house.

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